

HOUSE BILL 847

P1

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By: **Delegate McDonough**

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2010

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Notary Public – Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that a notary public be a United States citizen; requiring
4 that an applicant for notary public submit proof of citizenship with the
5 application; specifying the types of documents that establish proof of United
6 States citizenship; and generally relating to the requirements for notary public.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – State Government
9 Section 18–102 and 18–103(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2009 Replacement Volume)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – State Government**

15 18–102.

16 Each individual appointed as a notary public shall:

17 (1) be at least 18 years old;

18 (2) be of good moral character and integrity;

19 (3) live or work in the State;

20 (4) if living in the State, be a resident of the senatorial district from
21 which appointed; [and]

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (5) if living outside the State, be a resident of a state that allows
2 Maryland residents working in that state to serve as notaries public in that state; AND

3 (6) BE A UNITED STATES CITIZEN.

4 18–103.

5 (a) (1) An application for original appointment as a notary public shall be
6 made on forms prepared by the Secretary of State and shall be sworn to by the
7 applicant.

8 (2) An application by a resident of the State shall bear or be
9 accompanied by the written approval of a Senator representing the senatorial district
10 and subdistrict in which the applicant resides or, if that office is vacant, by any
11 Senator's written approval.

12 (3) An application by an out-of-state individual shall bear or be
13 accompanied by the written approval of a Maryland State Senator.

14 (4) TO ESTABLISH THAT THE APPLICANT IS A UNITED STATES
15 CITIZEN AS REQUIRED UNDER § 18–102 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE APPLICANT
16 SHALL SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS A NOTARY
17 PUBLIC:

18 (I) A COPY OF A BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR VERIFICATION OF
19 BIRTH IN THE UNITED STATES OR A TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES;

20 (II) A CURRENT OR EXPIRED PASSPORT ISSUED BY THE
21 UNITED STATES OR A TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES; OR

22 (III) A COPY OF THE DOCUMENT ISSUED BY THE UNITED
23 STATES GOVERNMENT IDENTIFYING THE APPLICANT AS A NATURALIZED
24 CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES.

25 [(4)] (5) Completed applications shall be filed with the Secretary of
26 State.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 October 1, 2010.